

## International Graduate Student Seminar July 26–28

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STUDENT SEMINAR)

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After the Professional Conference successfully ended, the three-day International Graduate Student Seminar began in the Nanzan Seminar House, an old monastery of the Society of Divine Word, the missionary order that established Nanzan University in 1949. This year all graduate students were required to stay at this seminar house. One of the main purposes of this International Graduate Student Seminar is to share the space that includes lodging and dining facilities, eating from the same pot and talking till midnight under the same roof, so that the future leaders of the global community can build and reinforce their mutual understanding and shared sense of mission. In total, 32 registered students (12 from the U.S., 17 from Japan, 3 from the other Asian-Pacific countries) participated in the seminar.

The universities of the participants are as follows: *Japan*: Osaka University, Tsuda College, Japan Women's University, Nanzan University, Kyoto University, University of Tokyo, Nagoya University, Keio University; *Pakistan*: Quaid-i-Azam University Islamabad; *The Republic of China*: Nanjing Normal University; *The Republic of Korea*: Yonsei University; *The United States*: Harvard University, Johns Hopkins University, The City University of New York, University of California—Irvine, University of California—San Diego, University of Kansas, University of Minnesota—Twin Cities, University of Pennsylvania, University of Wisconsin—Madison, Yale University;

The programs were as follows:

*July 26 Evening* (Orientation and Reception and 1st “Free Discussion (*zadan no yube*)”):

At 17:30, the orientation session began with Prof. Takakazu Yamagishi presiding. First, Prof. David Potter explained the history of NASSS. Then all mentors and tutors were introduced to graduate students. At 18:30, after moving to the dining room, the welcome reception started. After the dinner, the “extra-innings” for informal discussion over drinks was held in a lounge room, where students and professors could sit down on the floor and freely discuss and share their ideas beyond their cultural backgrounds and individual fields of study.

*July 27 Morning (Plenary Session):*

The plenary session was composed of two parts. The first part began with an international comparison of Ph. D. programs. Then the three keynote speakers gave talks concerning “backstage episodes” or the “making” of researches. Then an open discussion was held about how to be successful as graduate students and scholars. In the second part of the session, students had discussions based on the questions previously given by the three keynote speakers.

*July 27 Afternoon (Excursion to Osu Kannon and Inuyama Castle):*

Most of the foreign and Japanese participants took part in this program. Led by Prof. Sheri Love Yasue of Nanzan University, they first visited Osu Kannon, a well-known temple in Nagoya City. They had lunch there and enjoyed local food. They also enjoyed shopping at the traditional arcade near Osu Kannon. Then they moved to Inuyama Castle, a national treasure. All of them went up to the top floor of the castle. After that, they went to the Aichi Uraku-en Garden Tea Ceremony House, also a national treasure.

*July 28 Morning and Afternoon (Three separated Section Conference—Students’ project presentation)*

Students were divided into three sections: History & Society, Politics & International Relations and Literature and Culture. In each of the sections, each student made a 15-minute presentation, followed by a 15-minute Q&A session. Questions and comments came from not only other graduate students, but also from the professors. The presentation sessions in all three sections were very successful. With a sense of mutual trust created by sharing the same housing and meals, all students actively cooperated to improve presenters’ projects.

*July 28 Evening (Farewell Party and the 2<sup>nd</sup> “Free Discussion”)*

At the beginning of the final dinner party, a “Certificate of Completion” was awarded to each of the participants. Then the second “Free Discussion” was held and as many as 30 students and professors took part.

*July 29 Morning (Departure)*

After having the last breakfast, all the graduate student participants started on their way back home to their respective destinations.